REMARKS

Claims 9-12, 20-23, 33 and 34 are in the application, with Claims 9 and 20 having been amended, with Claims 1-8, 13-19 and 24-32 having been cancelled, and with Claims 33 and 34 having been added. Claims 9, 20, 33 and 34 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 9-12 and 20-23 are rejected as being unpatentable over Sauvage et al., U.S. Publication No. 2003/0235291 ("Sauvage"). in view of Cannon et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,671,252 ("Cannon").

Claim 9, as now presented, is directed to a "method", which includes "selecting frames from a sequence of frames of telephony signal data" and "analyzing the selected frames to determine whether a signaling tone is present in the selected frames". The method of claim 9 further includes "analyzing subframes of ... one of the analyzed frames" but "only if it is determined that [the] one of the analyzed frames includes a beginning or an end of a signaling tone". The analyzing of the subframes is "to determine whether the signaling tone is present in the subframes of the one of the analyzed frames" The subframes each overlap a portion of the one of the analyzed frames. Claim 9 also specifies that "said analyzing of said one of said subframes occur[s] after said one of said frames has been analyzed to determine that the signaling tone is present in said one of said frames".

In explaining the rejection of claim 9, the Examiner relied on the Sauvage reference as teaching selecting frames from a sequence of frames of telephony signal data and analyzing the selected frames to determine whether signaling tone is present therein. The Examiner conceded that Sauvage does not disclose analyzing subframes, but in that regard the Examiner relied on teaching in the Cannon reference in regard to processing short frames to detect tones in addition to processing long frames to detect tones.

Applicants respectfully observe that in discussing claim 9, the Examiner does not address the fact that the claim limitation of analyzing subframes is conditional. This aspect of claim 9

has been emphasized by the amendments thereto made in this paper. These amendments provide that the analyzing of subframes of an analyzed frame is performed only if it is determined that the frame in question includes the beginning or the end of a signaling tone, and only after that frame has been analyzed to determine that the signaling tone is present therein. Support for these amendments is found at FIG. 2 (blocks 52 and 54) and page 5, line 26 to page 6, line 2 of the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the aspects of claim 9 which call for analysis of subframes only after a frame has been analyzed and found to contain the beginning or end of a tone are not taught or suggested by the Cannon reference. In Cannon, the short frame length DFT 304 operates concurrently with the long frame length DFT 302 (see column 6, lines 28-33). Thus contrary to limitations of claim 9, the short frame length DFT 304 operates continuously and in parallel with the long frame length DFT 302 and is not limited, as recited in claim 9, to operating only after a long frame has been analyzed and found to contain the beginning or end of a signaling tone. Thus Cannon fails to teach or suggest analyzing subframes of a frame only after the frame has been analyzed and found to contain the beginning or end of a tone. Since Sauvage, as conceded by the Examiner, does not teach subframe analysis, it follows that claim 9 is allowable over the combination of Sauvage and Cannon.

Claims 10-12 are dependent on claim 9 and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 9. Also, new claims 33 and 34 are independent apparatus claims that are parallel to claim 9 and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 9.
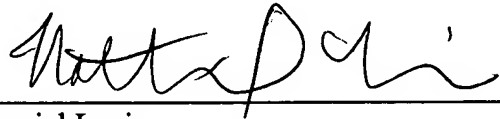
Claim 20 is the only remaining independent claim. Claim 20 has been amended to recite "subframe analysis circuitry" which is "operative to analyze only subframes of frames previously analyzed by the frame analysis circuitry". Thus the subframe analysis circuitry of claim 20 operates differently from the short frame length DFT 304 of Cannon, and claim 20 is believed to be allowable for essentially the same reasons discussed above in connection with claim 9. Claims 21-23 are dependent on claim 20 and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 20.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-3460.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

Nathaniel Levin
Registration No. 34,860
Buckley, Maschoff & Talwalkar LLC
Five Elm Street
New Canaan, CT 06840
(203) 972-3460